

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *cf Psalm 32:18-19*

Behold, the eyes of the Lord  
are on those who fear him,  
who hope in his merciful love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.

*Or Mark 10:45*

The Son of Man has come  
to give his life as a ransom for many.

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**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant, O Lord, we pray,  
that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things,  
we may be helped by what you give in this present age  
and prepared for the gifts that are eternal.  
Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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**THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME****ENTRANCE ANTIPHON** *cf Psalm 104:3-4*

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;  
turn to the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.

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**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
increase our faith, hope and charity,  
and make us love what you command,  
so that we may merit what you promise.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**FIRST READING** *Exodus 22:20-26*

*If you are harsh with the widow, the orphan, my anger will flare against you.*

The Lord said to Moses, "Tell the sons  
of Israel this, "You must not molest the  
stranger or oppress him, for you lived as  
strangers in the land of Egypt. You must  
not be harsh with the widow, or with  
the orphan; if you are harsh with them,  
they will surely cry out to me, and be  
sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will

flare and I shall kill you with the sword,  
your own wives will be widows, your  
own children orphans.

"If you lend money to any of my people,  
to any poor man among you, you must  
not play the usurer with him: you must  
not demand interest from him.

"If you take another's cloak as a pledge,  
you must give it back to him before  
sunset. It is all the covering he has; it  
is the cloak he wraps his body in; what

else would he sleep in? If he cries to me,  
I will listen, for I am full of pity."

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** *Psalm 17:2-4, 47, 51 response v 2*

**I love you, Lord, my strength.**

- 1 I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes.
- 2 Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed.

**SECOND READING** *1 Thessalonians 1:5-10*

*You broke with idolatry and became servants of God; you are now waiting for his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived  
when we were with you, which was for  
your instruction, and you were led to  
become imitators of us, and of the Lord;  
and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit  
that you took to the gospel, in spite of  
the great opposition all round you. This  
has made you the great example to all  
believers in Macedonia and Achaia since  
it was from you that the word of the  
Lord started to spread – and not only  
throughout Macedonia and Achaia,  
for the news of your faith in God has

spread everywhere. We do not need to  
tell other people about it: other people  
tell us how we started the work among  
you, how you broke with idolatry when  
you were converted to God and became  
servants of the real, living God; and  
how you are now waiting for Jesus, his  
Son, whom he raised from the dead, to  
come from heaven to save us from the  
retribution which is coming.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *cf Acts 16:14*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
 Open our heart, O Lord,  
 to accept the words of your Son.  
 Alleluia!

*Or John 14:23*

Alleluia, alleluia!  
 If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
 and my Father will love him,  
 and we shall come to him.  
 Alleluia!

**GOSPEL** *Matthew 22:34-40*

The Lord be with you.  
**And with your spirit.**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*You must love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the

greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: you must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

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**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Look, we pray, O Lord,  
 on the offerings we make to your majesty,  
 that whatever is done by us in your service  
 may be directed above all to your glory.  
 Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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**COMMUNION ANTIPHON** *cf Psalm 19:6*

We will ring out our joy at your saving help  
 and exult in the name of our God.

*Or Ephesians 5:2*

Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,  
 as a fragrant offering to God.

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